

Quilt would have A very different Texture and color Than any other Country in the world. All the different Characteristics and skin Colors of people Around the world Make our quilt Beautiful.

If you were to Look at the United States' Quilt, really Study it, you Would find Characteristics Of all the other Countries on it.

People have Immigrated here From other countries, And because of that, Each quilt patch Is different from The next quilt patch. Immigrants from Countries other than The United States Bring different foods And traditions, which Change the colors and Textures of the United States' beautiful And unique quilt.

FINALIST, AMANDA TABATA, HONOLULU, HI

I'm proud to live in a place with many immigrants.

Many people get to share customs, traditions, history, language, and many more things.

Many people do not know how lucky they are to live in a place with many immigrants.

I can learn many things about a culture from one another.

Give thanks because you live in a wonderful diverse, and free country.

Really take the time to experience, and learn about all of the cultures, history, tradition, religions and many more things.

Always be proud of who you are, what culture you are, and where you come from.

Nurture, and create an appreciation for all cultures.

Together we stand in a community of different cultures, so we are strong.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2001

Mr. SMITH of Oregon. Madam President, I rise today to speak about hate crimes legislation I introduced with Senator KENNEDY in March of this year. The Local Law Enforcement Act of 2001 would add new categories to current hate crimes legislation sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

I would like to describe a terrible crime that occurred July 4, 1991 in Houston, TX. Eight to 10 high school and college-aged males beat Paul Broussard, 27, and two of his companions with two-by-fours, some with nails in them. Broussard died seven hours later. Police labeled the homicide a "gay bashing."

I believe that government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act of 2001 is now a symbol that can become substance. I believe that by passing this legislation, we can change hearts and minds as well.

FISCAL YEAR 2002 TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS ACT

Mr. FEINGOLD. Madam President, I am pleased that the Senate was able to pass a Transportation Appropriations bill that fully funds the airport and highway trust funds and provides funds for high-speed rail research and development, among other things. Ensuring that our Nation's transportation infrastructure receives adequate funding for improvement and maintenance is a critical responsibility of Congress. Due in large part to TEA-21, Congress has been able to provide these necessary funds on a consistent basis.

At the same time, I continue to be concerned about unauthorized spending that is included in the accompanying report. While I appreciate the desire to respond to local requests and concerns, nevertheless Congress must work harder to rein itself in when it comes to this type of spending. We all know that this is not an easy task. While I disagree with the President's tax cut which has reduced the availability of funds for necessary programs, nevertheless I am encouraged by the Administration's recent announcement that it wants to work with Congress to cut back unauthorized spending in appropriations bills.

Adequate funding for our entire transportation infrastructure is one of my highest budget priorities. I am pleased that this bill accomplishes that goal.

THE VERY BAD DEBT BOXSCORE

Mr. HELMS. Madam President, at the close of business yesterday, Wednesday, August 1, 2001, the Federal debt stood at \$5,706,162,161,657.50, five trillion, seven hundred six billion, one hundred sixty-two million, one hundred sixty-one thousand, six hundred fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents.

One year ago, August 1, 2000, the Federal debt stood at \$5,652,485,270,404.28, five trillion, six hundred fifty-two billion, four hundred eighty-five million, two hundred seventy thousand, four hundred four dollars and twenty-eight cents.

Five years ago, August 1, 1996, the Federal debt stood at \$5,183,636,383,503.29, five trillion, one hundred eighty-three billion, six hundred thirty-six million, three hundred eighty-three thousand, five hundred three dollars and twenty-nine cents.

Ten years ago, August 1, 1991, the Federal debt stood at \$3,577,200,000,000, three trillion, five hundred seventy-seven billion, two hundred million.

Fifteen years ago, August 1, 1986, the Federal debt stood at \$2,079,858,000,000, two trillion, seventy-nine billion, eight hundred fifty-eight million, which reflects a debt increase of more than \$3 trillion, \$3,626,304,161,657.50, three trillion, six hundred twenty-six billion, three hundred four million, one hundred sixty-one thousand, six hundred fifty-seven dollars and fifty cents during the past 15 years.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

COMMENDING THE STUDENTS OF SUNNYSIDE AND TECUMSEH MIDDLE SCHOOLS OF LAFAYETTE, IN

• Mr. INOUE. Madam President, I rise to commend the students of Sunnyside and Tecumseh Middle Schools of Lafayette, IN, for their efforts to honor the Japanese American veterans of World War II.

On June 29, 2001, I was honored to help dedicate the long-awaited National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. Located just a stone's

throw from this chamber, at the corner of New Jersey and Louisiana Avenues, the memorial is a beautiful evocation of Japanese American contributions to life of this great Nation.

Though small in numbers, Americans of Japanese ancestry have had a tremendous impact on our Nation in countless ways, in fields and factories, in boardrooms and classrooms, in State houses and court houses. Of course, when their Nation called, they answered, performing magnificently on the battlefield. Their success, achieved in the face of discrimination and cultural misunderstanding, is a testament to their values of hard work, self-sacrifice, and love of family, community, and country, values that have helped make our Nation strong and prosperous.

The National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism is a fitting tribute to the "patriotism, perseverance, and posterity" of this small but vigorous minority in our country. I hope that all our colleagues, and indeed Americans everywhere, will have a chance to visit this remarkable shrine and reflect on the lesson that it teaches us, that America is great because it embraces its diversity, and that freedom and opportunity can be realized only when they are available to all.

Today I would like to share with you another tribute, one less grand, perhaps, and constructed of cloth and paper rather than steel and stone, but no less meaningful. I am referring to a remarkable work of art and remembrance, a quilt that comes from the heartland of America. Crafted by the young people in Lafayette, IN, the quilt honors the thousands of Japanese Americans who answered the call of duty during the Second World War.

Through the good offices of the Japanese American Veterans Association, the larger-than-life quilt to which I refer had its inaugural unveiling at the dedication dinner celebrating the June 29, 2001 opening of the National Japanese American Memorial to Patriotism. It captured the hearts and imaginations of all who saw it that evening, and in so doing, appropriately highlighted the memorial's primary mission, to educate Americans about the heritage of Japanese Americans and their special place in the fabric of our Nation.

I would like to commend the 8th grade students of Sunnyside and Tecumseh Middle Schools of Lafayette, IN, who joined together to create this unique work, and to thank their teacher, Ms. Leila Meyerratken, for her inspirational support for this initiative. Five hundred students, often working after school and on weekends, contributed their time, energy, and inspiration to the school project. Mrs. Meyerratken herself gave up holidays and leave to see the project through.

The quilt is a marvelously conceived and meticulously constructed work. The structure and detail were crafted with an eye for historical accuracy, and every opportunity was taken to imbue the quilt with appropriate symbolism. For example, 120,000 tassels edge the red-white-and blue tapestry, to represent the number of Japanese Americans incarcerated in the wartime relocation camps. And the quilt's dimensions are carefully framed at 19 x 41 feet, to recall the fateful year America entered the war.

The main body of the red, white, and blue cloth quilt is interspersed with memorabilia, including dog tags and parts of uniforms, that were selected from Nisei veterans themselves. Other sections contain heartfelt poems written by some of the junior high students. The names of more than 20,000 Nisei soldiers, from the 100th Battalion, the famed 442nd Infantry Regiment, the 522nd Artillery Battalion, 1399th Engineer Construction Battalion, and the Military Intelligence Service, are painstakingly attached to the rest of the quilt's panels.

Its creators intended the quilt to honor Americans of Japanese ancestry who volunteered to fight for their country in order to prove their loyalty, in spite of the detention of their family members in internment camps. The students expressed hope that the tapestry will teach others how Japanese Americans, by making sacrifices on the field of battle, rose above the indignities they suffered. These youths felt strongly that the World War II history of the Japanese Americans soldiers, which is not generally covered in history books, was a story worth telling.

Mrs. Meyerratken, the leader of the project, says that the quilt "is meant to promote social justice by teaching others in simple ways what these veterans did and how they overcame racism."

I hope that the quilt will tour the Nation and convey to all citizens the message of tolerance and understanding that these young people from Indiana have so beautifully and inspirationally captured in this marvelous quilt. If this quilt accurately represents the sentiments of America's heartland, then I think the future is in good hands indeed.●

TRIBUTE TO WALKER JOHNSON

● Mr. McCONNELL. Madam President, today I rise to pay tribute to a fine man and a great Kentuckian, Mr. Walker Johnson. On July 24, 2001, Walker celebrated his 90th birthday. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best.

Walker Johnson is a loving family man and a great friend. Born to Robert and Sanny Johnson, he enjoys small-town living and is a life-long resident of Adair County, KY. Walker is the father of four children, Billy, Doris, James, and Delois. In fact, it is through Delois and her husband, Rich,

that I have heard so many wonderful stories about Walker. He is a special friend to many, and is always willing to help others.

Walker is a unique individual who is known for his wit and sense of humor. Throughout his life, Walker has pursued a wide range of activities including music, horse shoeing, and dog trading. He is a talented musician and spent much time in his early years traveling and playing the fiddle with performers such as String Bean and Uncle Henry's Mountaineers. In the 1940s, he put the fiddle aside and began shoeing horses and trading dogs. Walker was one of the most skilled and hardest working farrier's in the business. In fact, at the age of 68, he managed to shoe 18 horses in one day. What a feat!

Walker has also stayed busy trading dogs, which he's done for more than 50 years. He has sold dogs all over Kentucky as well as in several other States. Today, at the age of 90, he still enjoys trading and sitting down with friends for good conversation.

On behalf of myself and my colleagues in the U.S. Senate, I want to pay tribute to Walker Johnson and sincerely wish him and his family the very best. I ask that an article which ran in the Adair Progress on Sunday August 24, 2000, appear in the RECORD. The article follows:

[From the Adair Progress, Aug. 24, 2000]

AN OLD-TIME FIDDLER NOW AN HONORABLE KENTUCKY COLONEL

(By Paul B. Hayes)

For around three-quarters of a century, Walker Johnson has traveled around the countryside—playing a fiddle, shoeing horses or trading dogs and various other items.

Johnson, a life-long resident of the county who has resided in the Millerfield community for the past 50-plus years, is known far and wide for his activities throughout the years, along with wit and humor.

A few weeks ago, the 89-year-old Johnson began having some health problems, but doctors installed a pacemaker in his heart about a month ago, and he appears to be on the mend. Last week, his spirits got a little boost when State Senator Vernie McGaha paid him a visit, and made him a Kentucky Colonel on behalf of Gov. Paul Patton.

While visiting with Sen. McGaha, his son Bobby, and another friend, Johnson took a little while to reminisce about his years as a musician, farrier and trader—and even play a tune or two on his fiddle.

"I've been playing a fiddle over 80 years," Johnson said while sitting on the porch of his home. "When I was six years old, Daddy made me a little cigar box fiddle."

"I started playing it, and that's all I wanted to do," he continued, "I got so where I wouldn't help Momma pack in the water or wood, and she got mad and threw it out the window."

"Eight days later, Daddy went to town and bought me a three-quarter size fiddle. He brought it home, give it to me, and told Momma 'This don't go out the window.'"

Johnson kept playing his fiddle and before too many years had passed, was traveling quite a bit to play music (In an article about Johnson that appeared a few years ago in the Russell Register, he was quoted as saying "I found out it was a lot easier to earn money by playing a fiddle at night than it was to hoe in the fields all day long.")

He played for a long time with String Bean, who later went on to the Grand Ole Opry and also made many appearances on Hee Haw.

He also played for a good while with Uncle Henry's Kentucky Mountaineers. The group played weekly on a Lexington radio station for three years, then got a chance to audition for the Grand Ole Opry.

"We went down there and played, and they offered to hire us," he recalled. "But, we decided not to go because it was too far."

Uncle Henry's group also went to Chicago to perform for a while, Johnson didn't go. "Casey Jones took my place when the band went to Chicago," he said.

Johnson also played at a weekly square dance that was held in Columbia for two years, but in the 1940s, he gave up playing his fiddle on a regular basis, and took up his other two professions—shoeing horses and trading dogs.

Johnson shoed horses for many years—including many race horses that raced at the country fairs in Russell and Adair counties. He shoed so many Russell County Derby winners (along with several Adair County Derby winners) that he was given special recognition at the Russell County Fair one year.

He kept on shoeing horses way past the time most people would have retired, even shoeing 18 horses in one day when he was 68 years old.

"They always said it took a strong back and a weak mind to shoe horses," he said, "and I guess I was well qualified, for I had them both."

While he's played music and shoed horses for years, Johnson's main reputation has been gained as a dog trader. In dog trading circles, he's known all over Kentucky and several other states.

"I've been trading dogs for 55 years," he said "I've sold a many a load of dogs in North Carolina, Virginia, Georgia and other states. I've owned a many a good dog, and a lot that weren't no count at all."

Johnson said that he traded fox hounds for 43 years, then 12 years ago switched to beagles. A few weeks ago, when he was sick, he sold all the beagles he had.

"I had six, and sold them all," he said. "This is the first time in 35 years that I haven't had a dog, but I'm going to get me some more when I get able."

On his being made a Kentucky Colonel at the age of 89, Johnson admitted he was quite pleased to receive the commission.

"I'm proud to be a Kentucky Colonel, it's about the only thing I've got now that I ain't got no dogs," he said. And, referring to the Kentucky Colonel certificate, which lists him as the Honorable Walker Johnson, he added, "I've been a long time finding out I was honorable—I was always called something else."●

HONORING FOSTER PARENTS

● Mrs. CARNAHAN. Mr. President, I would like to take this opportunity to honor and recognize a very special group of people. I commend Missouri's foster parents for their dedication to helping the lives of children. Every day, caring people open up their homes for children who are in need of help. Currently, Missouri is home to approximately 4,416 foster families.

Being a foster parent takes tremendous skill and dedication. Foster parents have to go through a training and assessment program in order to have a better understanding of the challenges that they will face raising foster children. Foster parents work as a team